

# Heroic Act 18 Years Ago Finds a Place in History

The time was two minutes after 9 a.m. The date was Feb. 19, 1945. The place was a small, almost insignificant island about 750 miles from Japan.

The decision had been made that this Pacific island was necessary to the continued success in the march toward Tokyo. The defending Japanese had spent years perfecting their network of caves and tunnels. The little men from the land of the Rising Sun had vowed to die in glory rather than suffer the disgrace of capture . . . 20,000 of them were to do so.

The island was Iwo Jima, eight square miles of volcanic ash. The U. S. Marines had been given the job of taking it away from the Japanese. The Marines had spent two and one-half years since Guadalcanal fighting their way from one island to another across the reaches of the Pacific. Yet, this was to be one of the fiercest battles in a long string of fierce ones.

**GUNNERY** Sgt. Sam Zavadny, Torrance area Marine Corps recruiter, landed on the third day of the Iwo Jima operation as a member of the Ninth Marine Regiment. Sam recalls that the going was hard against well trained and well motivated troops. Many comrades were to fall victim to the murderous fire of the concealed Japanese weapons during the several weeks of the struggle for Iwo. Every inch of progress was paid for in blood.

On Feb. 23 the commanding officer of the 28th Marine Regiment led his unit in the assault on Mount Suribachi, highest place on the island. This hill, 550 feet high, would be the scene of an event that would attract the attention of the world. History was made when a patrol from the 28th Marines fought and crawled its way up the steep slopes of Suribachi.

**FIVE MARINES** and a Navy pharmacist's mate raised the American flag to the breeze for the world to see. This simple act of heroism in the midst of a huge war was recorded for posterity. Joe Rosenthal, an Associated Press photographer, took the picture of the Iwo Jima flag raising that has been more widely reproduced than any other picture ever taken.

The six men who took part in the raising of the flag all went their separate ways after the event. Three of them were later killed in action. They were Pfc. Franklin Sousley, Cpl. Harlon Block, and Sgt. Michael Strank. One, Pfc. Ira Hayes, died after the war. The two remaining survivors, Pfc. Rene Gagnon and Pharmacist's Mate John Bradley, are still living. Bradley was later wounded on Iwo Jima after the epic flag raising.

**THESE MEN** who might never have attracted attention to themselves happened to be the ones chosen by fate to perform an act of heroism that day. By raising the stars and stripes on a barren island in the middle of a giant ocean, they served as examples of the gallantry found everywhere in the day to day conduct of a ferocious war against a fanatic enemy.

The three Marine Divisions that took part in the hand to hand struggle for Iwo Jima suffered 4,189 killed, 441 missing, 15,308 wounded. This was a pretty high price to pay for eight square miles of extinct volcano. Even though there is only a slim chance that we will ever be engaged in another war like the one fought by the Marines in the Pacific, Sergeant Zavadny stressed one im-

portant point in reflection. "THE YOUNG MEN who are applying for enlistment in the Marine Corps today have the same spirit and high morale that I remember from my Marine buddies during the long years of World War II," says Sam. "The youth of America will be able to meet the demanding standards expected of Marines as long as there is a United States and a U.S. Marine Corps."

The Marine Corps has received many tributes in the last 187 years, but none quite like the one from Admiral Chester Mimitz: The Marines who fought on Iwo Jima have made an accounting to their country which only history will be able to value fully. Uncommon valor was common virtue."

The Marine Corps recruiting office for Torrance is located at 2165 Torrance Blvd. Information on the Marines can also be obtained from Sergeant Zavadny by calling FA 8-2330.

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<p style="font-size: x-small;">NABISCO HONEY GRAHAMS 3 pkgs. <b>1.00</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">MORRELL—12-oz. FRANKS <b>39¢</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">CHICKEN OF THE SEA CHUNK STYLE TUNA NO. 1/2 CAN <b>25¢</b></p>
<p style="font-size: x-small;">NESTLE'S QUICK LB. CAN <b>39¢</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">WILSHIRE - FULL QUART - REG. 49c POLISH PICKLES <b>39¢</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">PILLSBURY FLOUR 5 LB. BAG <b>43¢</b></p>
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CARNATION MILK TALL CANS	<b>2 for 27¢</b>	
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<p style="font-size: x-small;">FOREMOST ICE CREAM Family 1/2-Gal. <b>55¢</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">HORMEL'S CHILI CON CARNE 15-oz <b>3 for 1.00</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">40-oz. <b>59¢</b></p>

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**Golf Clinic Slated Today**

Miss Betty Hicks will conduct a golf clinic at 9:30 a.m. today for the Sea-Aire Women's Golf Club at the Sea-Aire Golf Course, 22730 Lupine Dr. Members and guests are invited to the clinic which is offered without charge.

Following the clinic at 11 a.m., Miss Hicks, an advisory member of the Wilson Sporting Goods Co., will meet with the club officers and the tournament committee.

The clinic is sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department.

The Sunday is the core of our civilization, dedicated to thought and reverence. — Ralph Waldo Emerson.

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<p style="font-size: x-small;">C &amp; H SUGAR 5 LB. BAG <b>52¢</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">QUART Miracle Whip <b>57¢</b></p>
<p style="font-size: x-small;">GERBER'S — Strained Baby Foods 3 FOR <b>27¢</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">BEST FOODS — Quart Jar MAYONNAISE <b>61¢</b></p>
<p style="font-size: x-small;">SKIPPY PEANUT BUTTER</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">REG. 29c — 6-OZ. JAR <b>27c</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">REG. 49c — 12-OZ. JAR <b>45c</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">REG. 67c — 18-OZ. JAR <b>63c</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">REG. 97c — 28-OZ. JAR <b>93c</b></p>

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